

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE-ARTHOMPSON:DPB

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO COMDT COAST GUARD IMMEDIATE

INFO DEPT JUSTICE

CIA

CNO

DIRNAVINSERV

UNCLAS STATE 237483

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, PFOR, PL

SUBJECT: MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRIP BY TWO POLISH SAILBOATS

1. SAILBOATS "LEONID TELIGA" AND "POLONEZ," WHICH HAVE BEEN CALLING AT GREAT LAKES PORTS UNDER OPERATION SAIL AUSPICES, NOW WISH TO TRAVEL DOWN ENTIRE LENGTH OF MISSISSIPPI. POLISH TELEVISION IS SPONSORING "LEONID TELIGA" FINANCIALLY; FOREMOST WARSAW DAILY NEWSPAPER SPONSORING "POLONEZ."

2. THEME OF TRIP IS MARK TWAIN'S LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI REVISITED. THIS DEPARTMENT SEES TRIP AS OFFERING OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE LARGE AUDIENCE IN POLAND HIGHLY FAVORABLE PICTURE OF AMERICA IN OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR.

3. POLISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON INFORMS US THAT GENERAL AGENT FOR SAILBOATS DURING MISSISSIPPI JOURNEY IS GDYNIA AMERICA LINE IN NEW YORK (CONTACT: CAPTAIN PIENKAWA, 212-432-5058).

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POLISH EMBASSY FULLY SUPPORTS TRIP AND HAS ASSURED US BOATS

AND CREW MEMBERS WILL NOT BECOME PUBLIC CHARGES. BOATS
HAVE INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COVERAGE OF POLISH FIRM WARTA.

4. DEPARTMENT OF STATE FULLY SUPPORTS TRIP BY "LEONID
TELIGA" AND "POLONEZ" AS GOODWILL GESTURE AND ASKS THAT
COAST GUARD INSTRUCT ITS UNITS TO TREAT PORT CALLS DOWN THE

RIVER BY THESE SAILBOATS AS FRIENDLY -- IF UNUSUAL --
EVENTS AND GRANT APPROPRIATE EXCEPTIONS TO NORMAL REQUIRE-
MENTS FOR PRIOR NOTIFICATION WHICH APPLY IN CASE OF POLISH
VESSELS. PORT ENTRY BY THESE SAILBOATS DEEMED TO BE IN THE
NATIONAL INTEREST.

ROBINSON

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